

Bloomfield Citizen.

WEEKLY JOURNAL
PUBLISHED BY
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at Bloomfield, Essex County, N. J.

Office: 802 Glenwood Avenue

Subscription, \$2.00 per year, in advance
Six months, \$1.00; Three months, 50c.

It is sold at the Post Office at Bloomfield at second-class matter.

THE CITIZEN solicits contributions from the general public on any subject—political, religious, educational, or social—as long as they do not contain any personal attacks.

All communications must be accompanied by the writer's name, not necessarily for publication, but as an evidence of good faith. Advertisements for insertion in the current week must be in hand not later than Friday noon.

SATURDAY, JANUARY 13, 1906.

An Indefinite Project.

The Passaic river valley trunk sewer, Governor Stokes says in his message, is still an unsolved problem. The agitation of this much needed improvement is said to have begun in 1895, at the request of the Board of Health of Paterson for united action on the part of the affected communities. Since that time there has been legislation, litigation, discussion and debate with no result. The necessity for the purification of this stream increases every year. The population in the Passaic valley sewerage district is in round numbers 610,000, embraced in twenty-four municipalities. The completion of tunnels under the Hudson River and their connection with the various trolley lines will greatly multiply the suburban population in the Passaic valley and augment the difficulty of this problem.

The present condition of affairs is to be deplored. It involves, directly or indirectly, one-fourth of the people of the State, affects the growth and retards industrial development in this great and important section. Some of the affected municipalities are involved in damage suits because of the uncleanly condition of the Passaic river.

The act of 1903 to relieve from pollution the rivers and streams of the Passaic valley sewerage district was declared unconstitutional in part by the Court of Errors and Appeals. The court, however, left at the possibility of remedying the defects of the act to bring it within constitutional purview.

The settlement of this problem should no longer be deferred. It was once said, "The way to assume is to resume." The way to purify the Passaic river is to agree upon some practical method, rather than talk about it for the next ten years. There must be some possible settlement. Constitutional legislation and an agreement among the affected communities are the essential factors in this proposition. Legislation is difficult in a controversy between two communities and heretofore has been successful only through a special session which left a worthless legacy to the courts. Newark and Paterson have not been altogether in harmony on the subject, although as a matter of fact their interests are not incompatible. Two such extensive municipalities should meet through their representatives in a businesslike conference for the purpose, not of disagreeing, but of agreeing. Some remedy should be provided. Let it be done with fairness to all and hardship to none.

State School Money.

The State Board of Education has received the certification of State Comptroller Morgan to the apportionment of the State school tax for the year 1906. Based on the total tabulation of the state, the tax for next year is 2 1/2 mills on the dollar of valuation.

The comptroller shows that the 1906 total tabulation of the State, on which this tax is based, is \$1,153,682,951.10. On this basis the tax would be \$3,172,626.14.

Under the State school law the State appropriates from its general funds for the support of the schools an amount equal to 35 per cent. of the total school tax, and that reduces the amount to be raised by taxation just that much. The comptroller's report shows that the 35 per cent. appropriation for 1906 will be \$1,110,419.29, so that the tax to be raised in the counties besides will aggregate \$2,062,206.85.

Under the State school law ten per cent. of the amount raised for school purposes is held by the State as a reserve fund, and this is apportioned later in a way to benefit the districts where the tabulations are not sufficient to produce tax enough to insure proper school accommodations.

The apportionment to the counties of both the total tax and the State appropriation is made on the basis of the proposition that the tabulations of the county bear to those of the whole.

Rural Telephone.

A compilation of rural telephone statistics shows that there are now upwards of 300,000 rural telephones on Long Island, which are connected with local exchanges over the State, and that this number is increasing with a rapidity that bids fair to give the State over 400,000 rural telephones in another eighteen months.

Governor Stokes on Taxation.

Governor Stokes, in his annual message to the Legislature, says on the subject of taxation:

"The execution of our tax laws remains unsatisfactory. Inequality of valuations, the escape of personal property, and various forms of tax evasions are intensifying the dissatisfaction. Whatever theory may be held as to the wisdom of taxing personal property, that subject is not a question of debate so long as our constitution requires it to be taxed. Officers of the law have no choice in this matter but to execute the law. Personal property has multiplied rapidly in the last decade, not only through increased production, but through the various forms of bond and stock issues. Our tax levies, however, follow this well-known fact. The per capita value of assessed personal property in 1879 was \$114; in 1904 it was \$72. This statement needs no comment. The assessed value of our real property increased from \$427,000,000 in 1879 to \$912,182,594 in 1904, over 110 per cent. Our assessed personal property in 1879 was \$129,000,000, and in 1904 \$158,244,987, an increase of less than twenty per cent."

"According to the census reports and other statistical data, we had at the last census tangible personal property in the State amounting to \$539,000,000, and to this can be added intangible personal property, consisting of trust company, bank stock and insurance values, amounting to \$120,000,000, making the total over \$650,000,000, as against an assessment of \$153,244,987, and this does not include over \$200,000,000 of cash deposits, which some hold merely represent other form of property. Apparently nearly \$500,000,000 of tangible personal property escapes the assessor. This is about 50 per cent. of the present assessed valuations of all property in the State, and, if assessed, should result in reducing the tax rate 33.3 per cent. on the present basis of expenditure. Real estate is clearly bearing an unfair share of taxation, and persons of small means a larger proportion of taxes than the well-to-do. A vast deal of property now escapes through lack of courage or through favoritism on the part of officials."

"The claim that it is impossible to find and list property that now escapes the tax assessor is the cry of incompetence. What the census taker can find the assessor surely can find. Recent events have shown that other reforms, once said to be impossible, can be accomplished. Reform in this direction is no exception to the rule. Massachusetts, which compares with our State in many particulars, finds \$800 worth of personal property per capita for assessment; New Jersey should be able to find more than \$72."

"The lack of uniformity in valuations and assessments is well known. This is largely due to a system that depends upon the varying judgments of five hundred or more different tax assessors with as many different views."

"The State Board of Equalization of Taxes has announced its intention of sitting in different parts of the State to hear complaints upon this subject. In some States uniformity is secured by a State board or a county board making a complete valuation of all property at periods of from three to five years. Inequalities grow up in the interim, but a readjustment of values corrects these inequalities at each recurring period of county or State assessment. The adoption of some such method as this in our own State is worthy of consideration."

Weak Pressure in Orange.

Lack of water pressure was responsible for a serious fire in the costly stable of William J. Rogers of 58 Reynolds terrace, Orange, on Saturday night. The origin of the fire is a mystery, but by many it is thought to have been started by a defective electric light wire. The damage will approximate \$10,000. Two men who were in the stable smelled the smoke, and going upstairs to investigate discovered a fierce blaze in one corner.

The nearest fire station is a half-mile away in the heart of the business section of the city. When Hose Company No. 2, after a long run, arrived at the hydrant at Centre street and Reynolds terrace and stretched its line of hose, the blaze had made good progress. The water was turned on, but the stream barely reached the second story, and at a time when one or two good streams would have served to check the fire the firemen were powerless to do anything. The firemen could not get a good stream on the blaze until the arrival of steamer No. 2 from Orange Valley.

Basket-Ball.

In a game of basket-ball between the teams of the East Orange High School and the Glen Ridge High School on the courts of the latter last Saturday the East Orange five won by a score of 26 to 12. At the end of the first half the score was 12 to 6 in favor of the visitors. Douglas Moss of the Glen Ridge five was painfully hurt in a scramble for the ball, when his knee was badly wrenched and he was compelled to get out of the game. His place was taken by R. Kerr. Walter put up a good game for East Orange, while R. Calder did some clever passing for the home five.

Master's Instruction.

Miss Grace Willocks will resume instructions on the piano September 11th. Residence and studio, 87 Orchard street. Arrangements can be made now.—Advt.

Watersseing Politics.

The election called by the Town Republican Executive Committee in the Second District of the Third Ward for the choosing of a member of the Republican County Committee to fill the vacancy caused by the death of John G. Warden, will probably take place Tuesday, February 13. The members of the county committee desire that it be distinctly understood that the calling of this election is without prejudice to any faction in the party or to any person who may have been recommended for the position.

It appears that not a few voters in the Second District have interested themselves in the question of filling the vacancy in that district, and have personally talked with the county committee-men on the subject. The result of these interviews and the conflicting opinions expressed led the Executive Committee to decide that the best solution of the problem would be by election.

The Executive Committee, it is said, will be pleased to welcome Walter Elor as a member of their organization, and it is confidently expected that the election will result in a ratification of the choice of the meeting of party workers at which Mr. Elor was chosen to fill the vacancy in the Second District.

If the election shall result in a confirmation of the party workers' meeting, the Executive Committee will be personally pleased with the solution of the trouble.

In regard to precedents by which the Executive Committee has filled vacancies without calling an election, it is claimed that in such cases no such complications as have arisen in the Third Ward (Second District) case were met with.

In the Watersseing case a meeting that was held, and at which a candidate was selected, is the bone of contention. The claim is put forward that the meeting afforded no opportunity for a popular expression of opinion, and the facts warrant such an assumption. It is granted that the meeting made a good choice of a candidate, but the circumstances attending the meeting have afforded ground for complaint, and some of the aspirants for the position of county committeeman have not failed to make the most of the circumstances, and demand an election at which all Republican voters in the district shall have an opportunity for a voice in the matter.

The Executive Committee has yielded to that demand as presenting the only satisfactory solution of the difficulty. Personally the committee is not at all dissatisfied with the choice of the party workers' meeting, and it makes no difference to the Executive Committee whether or not the popular choice is in favor of a Colby or anti-Colby man. The election which will be held on the 13th of February will be conducted by the Republican members of the Board of Registry and Election, and the Republican enrollment book used at the November primary will be used.

W. J. Worcester Resigns.

William J. Worcester has tendered his resignation as president of the Young Men's Republican Club. The resignation will be acted upon at the regular meeting of the club next Thursday evening. It is said that a strong effort will be made to have Mr. Worcester reconsider his action and withdraw his resignation.

The president of the Young Men's Club has been active and useful in public affairs of late, and he has with him a number of associates who take an equal interest with him in public matters, and it would be a matter of regret to many people to see Mr. Worcester lay down the leadership of the Young Men's Club.

Mr. Worcester resigns, it is said, on account of business engagements. Others say that the Colby-Lentz fight has had a disrupting effect in the Young Men's Club. Mr. Worcester was a prominent Colby man last fall and still holds with the Colby faction in the Republican party.

Colby Bills.

The five measures that constituted the basis of the Colby campaign in this county last fall have been embodied in bills to be presented in the Legislature Monday.

One bill provides for the taxation at an average rate throughout the State of the main stem of railroads and franchisees of railroads; another provides for the imposition of a tax on the franchise of all public utility corporations; the third is for the limitation of franchisees to periods of twenty-five years, except in the case of other than first and second class cities where franchisees may be granted by referendum for a period not more than thirty-five years; a fourth bill provides means for making known the wishes of the majority of the people regarding the choice of United States Senators; and the last is a repealer of the Hillyer maximum tax act of last year.

Trust Company Officers.

The Bloomfield Trust Company elected these directors Tuesday: James N. Jarvie, William W. Snow, William R. Broughton, Robert M. Boyd, Jr., Joseph H. Dodd, Allison Dodd, Dr. Edwin M. Ward, Abijah R. Brown, Dr. William H. White, Edward D. Farmer, John M. Van Winkle, N. Harvey Dodd, Edward Oakes, John Sherman and Charles H. Underwood. The board will meet for organization next month.

Library Notes.

A new bulletin this week groups various scenes from the Wagnerian operas, giving portraits of Emma Eames and Miss North in Tannhauser and Parsifal respectively, and a picture of the great composer himself, with a comprehensive reading list on Richard Wagner and his operas. As we look over this list we have reason to feel well pleased with the extent and variety of reading matter which the library offers us on this subject.

Through the kindness of Charles Scribner's Sons, a number of original drawings by Beatrice Stevens are on exhibition in the reading room. They illustrate a charming book by Elizabeth Hill, named "My Wonderful Visit." The volume is catalogued among the juveniles, but every grown-up will want to read it after seeing these pictures. The story opens: "When I was a little girl eight years old, I made an enchanting, never-to-be-forgotten visit. It was a visit to cousin Sally's farm and it lasted only a week, but it was full of wonders and doings and happenings," and the illustrations fill one with a very lively curiosity as to these same "wonders and doings and happenings."

The January Century quotes a sonnet by the late John Hay, and accompanying this is a stately verse of four lines only by Mary Catherine Gallan, "Reminiscence of the Sonnet." In the same magazine is an address written by Mr. Hay some years before his death on Franklin in France. It is an article which holds the attention from start to finish, a strong, concise picture of the France which Franklin found when sent there as our first accredited representative in 1776.

One thing more should not be missed in this magazine, the cuts of four marble groups designed by Daniel Chester French for the main front of the new custom house in New York. Each group represents a continent, and their significance is explained in an article following the pictures.

To Revise Poor Laws.

A meeting of the commission appointed by Governor Stokes to revise the poor laws was held in the office of Judge Algernon T. Sweeney in Newark Thursday afternoon. Those present besides the judge were Prosecutor Speer of Hudson County; Thomas A. Davis of Orange and A. W. McDougal of the Bureau of Associated Charities of Newark. Chancery Clerk Vivian M. Lewis was unable to be present. Judge Sweeney presided and John Mulvaney of Hudson County acted as clerk. It was decided to hold a public meeting at the City Hall, Newark, on January 17, and to invite the overseers of the poor, other officials and those connected with charitable societies, to present their views.

Demented Wanderer.

William O. Dwyer, sixty years old, of Brooklyn was found wandering in Clark street Thursday night by Horace Traver. He acted strangely and Traver took him to the police station for safe keeping. The man, when first seen, was going from one side of the street to the other, and declared that he had lost \$60. At the police station a card giving his name and address was found in his pocket. The police of Brooklyn were communicated with, and they notified his family in Hudson street. Dwyer is a shoemaker and is said to be demented.

Opposes Canal Abandonment.

The Taxpayers' Association of Paterson is opposed to the scheme of Morris Canal abandonment, urged by the corporations interested, and at its last meeting adopted the following: "Resolved: That the Taxpayers' Association of Paterson protests against any change in the charter of the Morris Canal and Banking Company giving that company any additional charter rights."

Mrs. Harris Gives Reception.

Mrs. Sol Harris of Austin place gave a reception Thursday night in honor of the seventieth birthday of her father, Isaac Goodman. The parlors were prettily decorated with potted plants, palms and cut flowers. Guests were present from Newark, Montclair, Manhattan and the Orange.

Sheriff Sommer's Plan.

Sheriff Sommer of Essex county has posted in his office an extract from the State law which provides that no sheriff shall summon as a juror any person who may have applied to him to be summoned, under penalty of \$150 for every such offence, and has announced that he intends to draw his petit jurors without solicitation from their part or suggestion from any other source. There are just about twenty other counties in the State in which Sheriff Sommer's example should be followed.—Trenton Times.

Annual Hospital Meeting.

The annual meeting of the Mountain-side Hospital Association will be held in the hospital on Friday, January 19, when the annual reports will be read and members of the board of governors elected.

New Telephone Subscribers.

The New York and New Jersey Telephone Company reports the following new subscribers: 905-L, Daniel Schickel, 314 Broad street; 988-W, Mrs. C. Condit, 21 Benson street; 1132-L, George W. Cadmus, 30 Benson street; 885-R, Mrs. S. C. Dale, 39 Benson street; 1140-J, C. E. Sherman, 48 Hazelwood road; 1092-R, Max Rogow, 404 Broad street.

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Hams and Bacon.

C. M. D. & Bros. Hams, per lb. 16c.

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TENDER FOWL. 18c
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LONG ISLAND DUCK. 22c
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SQUAB. 3.25 doz.

Let other dealers say what they please, the proof of the "Turkey" is in the eating.

BLOOMFIELD, N. J.
Telephone No. 20. Home Telephone 29

STATEMENT OF The Bloomfield Savings Institution JANUARY 1, 1906.

ASSETS.	
Bonds of	
Essex County.....	\$15,000 00
Hudson County.....	20,000 00
City of Newark.....	1,000 00
City of Summit.....	25,000 00
City of Bordentown.....	15,000 00
Town of West Orange.....	20,000 00
Town of Irvington.....	15,000 00
Town of Kearny.....	20,000 00
Township of Neptune.....	9,000 00
Borough of Atlantic Highlands.....	6,000 00
Borough of Allentown.....	33,000 00
School Dist. No. 90 1/2, Monmouth County.....	10,000 00
West Jersey and Seashore Railroad Co.....	50,000 00
Bonds and Mortgages.....	347,078 88
Real Estate.....	2,500 00
Premiums on Bonds.....	10,652 50
Cash on Hand and in Banks.....	34,915 84
Interest Accrued on Investments.....	7,335 31
	\$647,482 53
LIABILITIES.	
Due Depositors, (1851 Accounts).....	\$554,636 60
Surplus Fund.....	86,845 93
	\$641,482 53

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60c to \$6.00 per pair.

Key Hockey Skates, 1.50 per pair
FULL NICKEL PLATE.

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